

Message Text

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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 10147

PASS OMB FOR DENIS JOHNSTON; LABOR FOR METCALF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, OECD
SUBJECT: OECD MEETINGS ON SOCIAL INDICATORS

1. SUMMARY - OECD CONDUCTED FOUR MEETINGS DURING PERIOD MARCH 21-31 TO CONSIDER VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE SOCIAL INDICATORS PROGRAM. SEPARATE MEETINGS CONSISTED OF FOLLOWING: SECOND MEETING OF COMMON DEVELOPMENT EFFORT NO. 7, "HOUSING," (MARCH 21-11); SECOND MEETING OF COMMON DEVELOPMENT EFFORT NO.5, "TIME AND LEISURE", (MARCH 23-25); MEETING OF STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL INDICATORS (WPSI), (MARCH 28); AND ELEVENTH MEETING OF WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL INDICATORS (WPSI), (MARCH 29-31). DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON INDICATOR SPECIFICATION, PROGRESS TO DATE, AND ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO PHASE 3 OF SOCIAL INDICATOR PROGRAM. DENIS JOHNSTON, OMB, WAS US REPRESENTATIVE.
END SUMMARY.

2. COMMON DEVELOPMENT EFFORT NO.7 (CDE 7) "HOUSING"

A. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON INDICATOR SPECIFICATION RELATIONSHIP
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TING IN PARTICULAR TO HOUSING QUALITY, MEASURES OF CROWDING, AMENITIES, ECONOMIC ACCESSIBILITY OF HOUSING, AND ACCESS OF HOUSING FACILITIES TO EMPLOYMENT AND TO VARIOUS GOODS AND SERVICES. US AGREED TO (A) REVIEW THE DRAFT INVENTORY OF DATA SOURCES RELATING TO ALL ASPECTS OF HOUSING PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT (SME/SI/CDE7/77.34) AND TO SUBMIT ANY APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

TION ON SUCH SOURCES; (B) REVIEW PERTINENT SECTIONS OF SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT OF A "COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY" AND SUBMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS IN REGARD TO THE HOUSING ITEMS IN THAT SURVEY SCHEDULE; (C) SUBMIT TO THE CHAIRMAN (MME PELLI OF SWITZERLAND) A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF CONCEPTS, DEFINITIONS, AND PRINCIPAL DATA BEING COLLECTED ON HOUSING IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNUAL HOUSING SURVEY IN THE US. THE PARTICIPANTS AGREED TO SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION TO THE CHAIRMAN BY MAY 1 (REGARDING THE ANNUAL HOUSING SURVEY) AND TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THE INVENTORY AND COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY TO BOTH THE OECD SECRETARIAT AND CDE CHAIRMAN BY AUGUST 15. (D) THE THIRD MEETING OF THIS CDE IS SCHEDULED FOR 28-30 SEPT. 1977 AT WHICH TIME THE ABOVE MATERIALS WILL BE REVIEWED, TOGETHER WITH A FIRST DRAFT OF THE CDE'S PROGRESS REPORT TO THE WPSI.

3. COMMON DEVELOPMENT EFFORT NO. 5 (CDE 5) - "TIME AND LEISURE"

A. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON INDICATOR SPECIFICATION FOR MEASURES OF TIME-USE, AND IN PARTICULAR, USE OF TIME AND PARTICIPATION IN PARTICULAR KINDS OF LEISURE ACTIVITY. THE BASIC THEORETICAL ORIENTATION FOR THIS EFFORT WAS PROVIDED BY A PAPER PREPARED BY CHAIRMAN AAS OF NORWAY. ALSO REVIEWED WERE A PAPER BY US REPRESENTATIVE ON POPULATION DISAGGREGATIONS FOR USE IN STUDIES OF TIME-USE AND LEISURE, AND PAPERS ON AVAILABLE DATA IN THIS AREA IN THE UK AND WEST GERMANY.

B. PARTICIPANTS AGREED TO REVIEW PERTINENT SECTIONS
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OF THE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY AND THE INVENTORY OF AVAILABLE DATA PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT, AND TO SUBMIT COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL DATA TO THE SECRETARIAT AND CDE CHAIRMAN BY EARLY SUMMER. US REPRESENTATIVE ALSO AGREED TO SUBMIT A REVISED DRAFT OF PAPER ON DISAGGREGATIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN BY JUNE 1, TO BE INCORPORATED AS AN APPENDIX TO THE PROGRESS REPORT ON CDE 5 BEING DRAFTED BY THE CHAIRMAN.

C. THE NEXT MEETING OF CDE 5 HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR LATE OCTOBER 1977, AND WILL BE DEVOTED TO A REVIEW OF DRAFT PROGRESS REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE WPSI BY END OF 1977.

4. MEETING OF WPSI STEERING COMMITTEE

PROPOSED AGENDA OF WPSI'S 11TH MEETING WAS REVIEWED WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO 1977 WORK PLAN. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO PROPOSE TO FULL WORKING PARTY THE FORMA-

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TION OF A SPECIAL GROUP OF 4 OR 5 REPRESENTATIVES TO
DRAFT A SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PHASE III OF THE
WORKING PARTY'S ACTIVITIES FOR REVIEW BY THE WORKING
PARTY AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

5. 11TH MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL INDICA-
TORS (WPSI)

FIVE MAJOR ISSUES WERE DEALT WITH AT THIS MEETING:
A) FORMATION OF A SPECIAL GROUP TO DRAFT A SET OF RE-
COMMENDATIONS FOR PHASE III OF THE WPSI'S ACTIVITIES:.
SIX REPRESENTATIVES WERE SELECTED TO CARRY OUT THIS
WORK: MR. H.J. ADLER (CANADA) TO REPRESENT THE US,
CANADA, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, AND NEW ZEALAND; MR. T. LEPPÖ
(FINLAND) TO REPRESENT FINLAND, SWEDEN, NORWAY, DENMARK,
AND ICELAND; MR. J.B. PENA TRAPERO (SPAIN) TO REPRE-
SENT SPAIN, PORTUGAL, ITALY, GREECE, AND TURKEY;
MRS. J. PERETS (UK) TO REPRESENT THE UK, IRELAND, AND
THE NETHERLANDS; MR. B. GEISS (W. GERMANY) TO REPRESENT
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, AUSTRIA, AND SWITZER-
LAND; AND MR. B. BRUNHES (FRANCE) TO REPRESENT FRANCE,
BELGIUM, AND LUXEMBOURG. THIS GROUP WILL MEET AS NEEDED
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TO COMPLETE A DRAFT REPORT RE PHASE III FOR REVIEW BY THE FULL WPSI AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

B) REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE L5 COMMON DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS (CDE'S). WPSI AGREED ON NEED FOR FURTHER MEETINGS OF EACH OF THE ACTIVE CDE'S IN ORDER TO ENABLE THEM TO SUBMIT A PROGRESS REPORT TO THE WPSI BY THE END OF 1977 WITH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS OF APPROPRIATE INDICATORS.

C) SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT OF A "COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY" SCHEDULE WAS REVIEWED. US REPRESENTATIVE (JAPAN CONCURREN- CING) STRESSED NEED TO INCORPORATE PERCEPTUAL MEASURES (I.E., OPINION ITEMS) IN THIS SURVEY INSTRUMENT SINCE NO OTHER DATA COLLECTION MECHANISM WAS AS SUITABLE FOR OBTAINING DATA OF THIS TYPE. US REPRESENTATIVE ALSO NOTED THAT NOT ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES WERE COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENT THIS SURVEY INSTRUMENT. SECRETARIAT NOTED THAT NO SUCH COMMITMENT EXISTS IN REGARD TO ANY RECOMMENDED DATA COLLECTION FOR ANY OF THE AREAS OF CONCERN.

D) WPSI REVIEWED SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT "INVENTORY" OF AVAILABLE DATA SOURCES FOR SOCIAL INDICATORS. ALL COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES ARE EXPECTED TO REVIEW THESE MATERIALS FOR ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS AND SUBMIT ADDITIONAL DATA SOURCES AS NEEDED. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT ACTUAL DATA WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE INVENTORY ONLY FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES AND NOT FOR COMPARISONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES.

E) WPSI APPROVED WORK PLAN FOR 1977. SCHEDULE CALLS FOR COMPLETION, BY THE END OF 1977, OF (1) PROGRESS REPORTS BY ALL CDE'S NOW ACTIVE; (2) A REVISED DRAFT OF THE INVENTORY AND (3) A DRAFT REPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON PHASE III BY THE SPECIAL GROUP. THE 12TH MEETING OF THE WPSI HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR LATE JANUARY, 1978, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE ABOVE THREE ITEMS. THE LATTER ITEM, (PHASE III RECOMMENDATIONS) WILL THEN BE SUBMITTED BY THE WPSI TO THE MANPOWER AND SOCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IN TIME FOR ITS MEETING IN LATE FEBRUARY, 1978, AND THEN THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE COUNCIL BY THE AGREED DEADLINE OF 30 JUNE 1978.

F) MR. N. PREFONTAINE (CANADA) WAS REELECTED TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL INDICATORS. TURNER

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